

Message Text

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TAGS: ETRD CH NV DA EAID VS

SUBJECT: DANISH TRADE AND AID IN CHINA AND VIETNAM

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1. SUMMARY: DANISH TRADE WITH THE PRC INCREASED TO \$41.1 MILLION DOLLARS IN 1975 AND DENMARK ENJOYED A SMALL TRADE SURPLUS. A NUMBER OF TRADE-ORIENTED MISSIONS WILL TRY TO MAINTAIN THIS TREND. DANISH AID TO NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS WILL TOTAL AT LEAST \$13 MILLION IN GRANTS AND \$25 MILLION IN SOFT LOANS. END SUMMARY. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

2. DANISH EMBOFF BLADBERG HAS GIVEN USLO FINAL TRADE FIGURES INDICATING AN INCREASE IN DANISH-PRC TRADE IN

1975 OF ALMOST 20 PCNT TO ABOUT \$41.1 MILLION (252 MILLION DKR.). WITH EXPORTS ALMOST DOUBLING TO \$20.8 MILLION
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AND IMPORTS DECREASING SOME 15 PCNT TO \$20.3 MILLION, THE

USUAL DANISH TRADE DEFICIT WAS ELIMINATED FOR THE FIRST TIME.

3. THE FALL IN IMPORTS GENERALLY RESULTED FROM THE DECREASE IN TEXTILES AND CHEMICALS DUE TO SLACKENED DEMAND, AS IN MANY OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND MAY WELL BE REVERSED WITH MOREIMPROVEMENT IN THE GENERAL DANISH ECONOMY. EXPORTS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE AT

THE NEW, HIGHER LEVEL REACHED IN 1975. ALTHOUGH DANISH DELIVERIES OF SMALL BOATS FOR SUPPLYING OFF-SHORE OIL WELLS WILL CEASE IN 1976, DELIVERIES TO THE

DANISH AMMONIA CATALYST PLANT ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE UP THE SLACK IN 1976.

4. THREE SETS OF DANISH VISITORS WILL VISIT CHINA IN MARCH ON COMMERCIAL MISSIONS. THE DANISH-CHINESE JOINT ECONOMIC COMMISSION WILL MEET IN PEKING MARCH 14-16. AND DANISH MINISTER FOR FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS WILL CONTINUE THE SERIES OF ANNUAL HIGH-LEVEL DANISH OFFICIAL VISITS TO CHINA WITH HIS MARCH TRIP AT THE HEAD OF A SEVEN-MAN DELEGATION. AND A 40-MAN DELEGATION FROM THE DANISH FEDERATION OF INDUSTRIES WILL VISIT PEKING MARCH 16-27 HOSTED BY THE CHINA COUNCIL FOR THE PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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5. BLADBERG ALSO PROVIDED USLO WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON DANISH AID TO VIETNAM. AID IS STILL BEING SUPPLIED TO BOTH NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM SEPARATELY IN EQUAL AMOUNTS. EACH WILL RECEIVE ABOUT \$3 MILLION IN GRANT AID IN 1976-77 AND \$3.5 MILLION IN 1977-78. OF THE \$3 MILLION TO BE PROVIDED THE PRG IN 1976, APPROXIMATELY \$2 MILLION WILL BE IN THE FORM OF FERTILIZER; THE REMAINDER WILL BE SPENT FOR SMALL REFRIGERATORS FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY.

6. THE ENTIRE \$6.5 MILLION IN GRANT AID TO BE GIVEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE DRV WILL BE APPLIED TOWARD CONSTRUCTION OF A CEMENT PLANT FOR WHICH THE DANES HAD ALREADY GRANTED A \$25 MILLION SHORT LOAN. THIS LOAN WAS ORIGINALLY INTENDED TO COVER THE ENTIRE COST OF THE PLANT, BUT THE DRV HAD INSISTED THAT THE SCALE, AND THE COST, OF THE PLANT BE DOUBLED. THE DRV HAS SAID THAT IT CAN SUPPLY THE REMAINING \$18.5 MILLION NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE PLANT. WITH SOME SKEPTICISM, BLADBERG

NOTED THAT ON HIS NOVEMBER TRIP TO HAIPHONG HE HAD
SEEN EQUIPMENT FROM PREVIOUS DANISH AID PROJECTS STILL
LYING ON THE DOCK. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
THAYER

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